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THE NUR AFSEAN

Vol. VI.

FRIDAY:--AUGUST 22nd, 1902.

No. 34.

Editorial Notes.

The brief note from Allahabad, telling of the munificent gift of Fifty Thousand rupees to the Ladies Seminary connected with the American Presbyterian Mission, fills all hearts with gladness. This will secure the new premises, for what we shall now hope soon to call the Ladies College, to be located amidst more suitable surroundings than at present.

The old buildings will provide much needed accommodation for the Christian College in the Jumna Mission Compound. We congratulate the Ladies in the Seminary and Dr. Ewing of the College.

The Christian Boys Boarding High School closed on the 8th for the Summer Vacation. It will reopen on Sept. 23rd. This School suffered a great deal through the scourge of plague which ravaged the city and district of Ludhiana. Early in February it became evident that the plague had come to stay, the school was closed for one month, with the intention that the usual Easter holidays would not be given. The School was opened promptly on the 15th March, but instead of 116 only about 20 answered to the roll call. By the 1st of April most of the boys had returned, since then the school has prospered. Notwithstanding the excessive heat and frequent extreme changes of temperature, the health of

the school has been better than for the average year at Ludhiana.

Previous to the adjournment of the School, a coronation service was held specially for the school. An address was made by the Principal setting forth the meaning of the Coronation ceremony and enjoining upon the pupils the duty of loyalty to the British Empire. Badges were then pinned upon each boy and teacher in the School. Large sized pictures, such as appeared as the supplement of the Nur Afshan last week, of both King and Queen were sent to the homes of the boys.

The Statement of the *Arya Patrika* that "It is not mere intellectual belief that regenerates a man" is true. Many of the worst men this world has ever seen have been giants in intellect.

The statement made later on that "It is moral conviction, yea the realization in practical life of what one believes in that will exalt and ennoble human beings," seems to be a mere truism. If it is meant, as it seems to be, that moral conviction regenerates a man, we may question its accuracy. The writer defines his somewhat axiomatic statement by saying that this "moral conviction" is "the realization in practical life of what one believes."

The difference then between the merely intellectual believer and the man of moral conviction is that the latter makes his life to "conform with whatever he understands of the truth". The one is a theorist without practical

morality, while the other as both theoretical and practical in regard to what he understands to be the truth.

This statement is supposed to account for the fact that some Christians are better than some Moslems and Aryas and that on the contrary some Moslems and Aryas are better than some Christians. Christians claim superiority over all religions and the question is asked why in that case all Christians are not better than all Muhammadans, or all Aryas. It seems to us that this inquiry if answered by the Arya theory above noted would suggest that possibly all Christians do not believe what is known as Christian truth, and therefore do not mould their lives in accord with that truth. If all Christians believed the truth taught by their Master and truth conformed their lives to that teaching, we should see that in very truth all Christians were better than all Muhammadans.

We have here suggested to us the real spring of spiritual life in men. It is *regenerating power*. Jesus said "except ye be born again ye cannot see the Kingdom of God." Even when men intellectually apprehend the truth, they must be endued with a new spiritual life before they can carry out in practice what they have learned. Jesus said "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." It is then as we come to receive this Jesus and by faith receive life from Him that we carry out into reality the matchless moral and spiritual standards found in His teaching and example.

MADE IN JAPAN



Current Thought & Incident.

VOLCANOES AND EARTHQUAKES.

Roughly speaking, volcanoes are distributed over the face of the globe in lines. They mark lines of weakness in the crust of the earth; for along these lines the earth's rind has not been strong enough to withstand the enormous subterranean pressure. It is believed that this pressure is caused largely by water, which sinking to the heated regions, is converted into steam and steam is now commonly regarded as the main motive force of volcanoes; hence the rise of volcanoes along these lines of weakness; and also earthquakes, naturally occurring, most frequently along lines of weakness, where the rocks may be most easily disturbed.

The long chain of the western islands of the Lesser Antilles lie along such a line of weakness. Their rocks are porphyries and lavas, igneous material that was evidently thrust up from the bowels of the earth through a submarine break in the crust that extends in the form of a bow, roughly north and south, for about 700 miles. The islands rise like the ruined piers of a bridge, the outer rampart of the Caribbean Sea, surmounted by great volcanic cones, many of which are now extinct, though some are still active, and are occasionally a vent for the pent-up volcanic forces of the interior of the earth.

These are the Caribbean islands of the Lesser Antilles. The eastern or Atlantic part of the chain, extending from Sombbrero on the north to Barbadoes on the south, Barbadoes being the most important and largest, are not of plutonic origin; at least, if any part of them was thrust upward from the interior of the earth by volcanic energy, it is the basis on which they stand, for all that is within reach of investigation is formed of the calcareous remains of marine life. In other words they are of oceanic origin, while the western islands are of plutonic origin, with margins of more recent, marine formations overlying the volcanic rocks. Guadeloupe alone curiously unite the two formations. The eastern part of it is of marine origin; the western part, joined to the other by a narrow isthmus, was thrust above the sea by volcanic energy.

These facts show why it is that the western islands, the larger and with the exception of Barbadoes the more populous and important of the Lesser Antilles, are subject to more ills than the eastern islands. All alike have

climates that at least in the rainy season are very insalubrious; all are subject to devastation by hurricanes; but the western islands have the added affliction of earthquakes and volcanic outbursts. They stand along a line of crustal weakness; and in fact owe their origin to it, while the eastern islands rest upon a foundation of firm rocks.

Martinique is purely volcanic. With an area of only 385 square miles, less than one-fourth that of Long Island, six volcanic peaks, not very high, rise into the air, conical in form, clad to their summits with the most luxuriant verdure and giving to the whole island, as seen from the sea, an aspect of striking beauty. Five of them have been extinct throughout the historic period; the tallest one, Mont Pelee, near the northwest extremity of the island, 4,428 feet high, at whose base stands the port of St. Pierre, has generally been quiescent, but near the end of the eighteenth century and again in 1851, there were weak eruptions. There has always been plenty of evidence that life had not departed from Mont Pelee, but since the island was discovered there had not been any indication that the volcano was capable of serious mischief. Following along the main axis of the mountains to the south are the other cones, three-crested Carbet; about midway on the island, being scarcely inferior to Pelee in altitude.

A NEGRO MILLIONAIRE.

Here is an account given by one of our exchanges of a negro millionaire. The fact that this man has amassed so large a fortune is more wonderful when we know that fifty years ago, he was a slave.

It is a little over fifty years since Joane Knight was born to become a "chattel" of Daniel Upton, a tobacco-plantation owner in Alabama, whose slave Juan's mother had been for many years. Happily for the "little piece of ebony," his owner was a kind and cultured man and he and Mrs. Upton gave the child the rudiments of an education.

At the age of sixteen, on his master's death, young Juan was sold to a cotton planter in Central Alabama; and on his emancipation he became a wharf laborer at New Orleans, thus unwittingly taking the first step to fortune.

In 1866 Juan was sent to Yucatan to superintend the packing and shipping of fruits to New Orleans. He was quick to see the splendid scope for development of this industry, and pro-

posed to the government to secure orders to the amount of \$2,000,000 a year for Guatemalan fruits from New Orleans buyers, in return for a concession of 50,000 acres of land.

This mission was successful, and the grant was made. Contracts and concessions followed each other quickly, and within five years Juan was the largest employer of labor in Guatemala, with hundreds of square miles of tobacco and coffee plantations and mahogany forests.

HOW INSECTS MAKE MUSIC

The grasshopper has a wing that is very curious to look at. You have seen this little insect, I have no doubt. Its color is light green, and just where the wing joins the body there is a thick ridge, and another on the wing. On this ridge there is a thin but strong skin, which makes a sort of drumhead.

It is the rubbing of these two ridges or drumheads together which makes the queer noise you have heard. There is no music in it, certainly. The insects could keep quiet, if they wished, but they must enjoy making the noise.

The grasshopper sometimes makes two rubs on its drumhead, and sometimes three. The moment it is very dark they begin. Soon the whole company is at work. As they rest after each rubbing, it seems as if they answered one another.

Did you know that bees hum from under their wings? It is not the stir of those beautiful white wings we hear. It is the air drawing in and out of the air tubes in the bee's quick flight. The faster the bee flies the louder the humming is. Did you know that insects feel? They have nerves all over them, through their wings and out to the end of every feeler.—The Westminster.

QUEER TRAVELS OF PLANTS.

One would not imagine, off-hand, that ice could possibly be instrumental in accomplishing the distribution of plants, yet a French scientist has recently called attention to the fact that ice-bergs are frequently useful in this way. Navigators in polar seas often encounter bergs carrying enormous masses of debris, with more or less soil, in which plants are growing. Eventually the ice-mass runs aground upon the shore of some distant land, there depositing the plants, which may find themselves so situated as to be enabled to reproduce their species.

The case of volcanoes as plan-dis-

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tributors is even more remarkable, though one must regard as very exceptional such instances as that noted at Port Elizabeth, South Africa, in 1887, where large quantities of volcanic pumice were observed floating on the sea. On these fragments of pumice were found various small animals unfamiliar in that part of the world, and there was also a sort of cocoon. The nut was planted and in due time produced a palm strange to the African coast. It was decided that the pumice came from the great eruption of Krakatoa in the Straits of Sunda, which was in its way the most remarkable volcanic cataclysm of modern times.

A QUEER MARRIAGE CUSTOM.

In a series of articles relating to the marriage custom peculiar to various countries, the Woman's Home Companion relates an odd one appertaining to Northern Europe. The Scandinavian bridegroom gives his betrothed a prayer-book and many other gifts, which usually include a goose. She, in turn, gives him, especially in Sweden, a shirt, and this he inevitably wears on his wedding-day. Afterward he lays it away, and under no circumstances of state or poverty will he wear it again while alive. But he wears it in his grave, and there are Swedes who earnestly believe not only in the resurrection of the body, but in the veritable resurrection of the betrothal shirts of such husbands who have never broken their marriage vows. The Swedish widower must destroy upon the eve of his second marriage the wedding-shirt his first wife gave him.

CURIOUS INDIAN STONE.

A most valuable Indian relic was found on a farm in Bucks county, Pa., lately, by a boy while harrowing a piece of ground that has been in the family for thirty years. He had picked up the stone to throw at a crow's nest, but remarking its peculiar formation, cleaned it off and realized that he had a rich find. This curiosity is cut from a piece of beautifully marked flint 1/4 inches long, 2 inches broad and an inch thick, with a circular hole 19-32 of an inch at one side and 15-32 of an inch at the other side bored through the thickest part, and weighs four ounces. The front part, or nose, is concave from the top and convex on the under side, which is marked with seven notches. The blade is convex from the under part, beginning at the hole in the centre, to the

extreme upper point, and has thirteen notches cut on the upper side of the blade. The stone very much resembles a hatchet, and is a splendid piece of workmanship.

An eminent authority says there is but one other stone of the same character known at this time, and that is deposited in the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C., a cast of which is in the collection of the museum of the Bucks County Historical Society.

THE BABY ON THE BATTLEFIELD.

During the hill fighting on the Northwestern frontiers of India, in November, 1897, the Ghoorkas were one day advancing in force up the Bara Valley. The scouts seeing an Afridi driving off cattle, fired at him, but when they came up to his body were surprised to find a wee Afridi baby lying beside him. The soldiers at once took the infant prisoner, and the mess president was required to see its wants attended to. Luckily he had some Swiss milk amongst his stores, so food was obtained, and he promoted a Kohati native to the post of nurse. It proved to be a serious thing, however, to carry about an infant in arms in a hostile country where there was plenty of fighting. So two days later, as they were returning through the village near which it had been picked up, the men, treating the child as a founding, left it on the doorstep of a house in full view of the Afridis, who would doubtless be able to restore the interesting stranger to its friends, if not to its parents.—Cassell's Little Folks.

THE GULF AND ARABIA.

The Aden correspondent of the *Times of India* writes that the R. I. M. S. *Mayo* with the Resident and Assistant Resident of Aden on board, recently called at Balhof, where the Resident intended to see the Sultan and force him to repay the specie looted from the sambuk that was wrecked between Balhof and Jilla. The Sultan of Balhof bolted to the interior, leaving only one of his brothers and a couple of dozen men as spies. On arrival of the *Mayo* his brother came on board with ten followers; and on being asked about the Sultan and the specie looted he said that the Sultan and villagers had gone to their usual summer place in plantations up-country. In the meantime about thirty shells were fired from H. M. S. *Perseus* to demolish the fort. Some men of the Sappers and Miners were landed

to demolish the dwellings around. The Sultan's brother was taken into custody and brought to Aden, where he is still under restriction. All the merchants are extremely grateful to the Resident for the active measures he has taken in punishing the pirates.

THE AMIR OF NEJD AND THE PORTE.

Bin Rashid, Amir of Nejd, has sent a commission to the Porte headed by one of his secretaries named Shaikh Nasir Bin Kharshman, and they were cordially received into the palace. Now I have learnt from the *Thamirat-ul-fanum* of Beyrout, Syria, that the Sultan has bestowed on Bin Rashid a warrant and jewelled insignia of honour of the Medjidieh, for the many loyal services rendered by him to the Porte. Another insignia of the Medjidieh, second class, has been invested on Shaikh Nasir and on others according to their rank.

ARRIVAL OF TURKISH TROOPS.

A Turkish transport carrying 1,200 troops has arrived at El Katif, a Turkish port in the Gulf. The troops were transhipped into country craft and landed at Agair, a port of Al-Hassa, but they hesitated to march to Al-Hassa as the route was unsafe. Next day about 800 irregular Arab sepoys came from Al-Hassa and escorted them to Al-Hassa.

C. & M. Gazette.

WHAT BECAME OF A LIE.

First somebody told it.

Then the room wouldn't hold it,

For the busy tongues rolled it,

And got it outside.

When the crowd came across it

They never once lost it,

But tossed it, and tossed it,

Till it grew long and wide.

This lie brought forth others—

Dark sisters and brothers,

And fathers and mothers—

A terrible crew;

And as headlong they hurried,

The people they flurried,

And brothers and worried,

As lies always do.

At last, evil-boded,

It fretted and goaded,

Till at last it exploded

In sin and in shame;

While through smoke and through

fire

The pieces flew higher,

Till they hit the sad liar,

And killed his good name.

Telegrams.

London, Aug. 15.

The *British Medical Journal* is authorised to deny that a second operation on the King was contemplated. His Majesty is in better health than for a long time.

MADE IN JAPAN

London, Aug. 15.

The Lord Mayor sends to the press a letter signed by eleven representatives and guests from India expressing gratitude as loyal subjects of the British throne for the generous hospitality and unvarying kindness experienced everywhere they visited. "Our regard and affection," says the letter, "for the great British people becomes deeper the more we come in contact."

General Trotter yesterday presented medals to the two injured Indians in hospital.

A woman who was injured simultaneously is dead.

The Indian troops have proceeded to Southampton and embarked on the *Hardinge*. They will witness the Naval Review before sailing.

London, Aug. 15.

The *Golconda* has arrived at Durban with Boer prisoners from India.

Calcutta, Aug. 16.

A cablegram to the *Englishman* says:—

A Pro-Boer news agency in Paris states authoritatively that Mr. Kruger refuses to recognise the peace. He will not take the oath of allegiance, or ask for permission to return to South Africa.

London, Aug. 15.

Sir W. Walrond has been re-elected for Tiverton.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain has been re-elected.

London, Aug. 15.

Resistance to the expulsion of nuns continues in Brittany. Yesterday one school which is surrounded by a deep moat filled it with water.

M. Combes declared in the Cabinet that the resistance to the execution of this law was not due to Catholic motives, but to a violent Royalist movement which will be followed by judicial prosecutions.

London, Aug. 15.

Lord Raglan has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man.

London, Aug. 15.

Three British soldiers were stricken with cholera at Cairo. Two have died.

London, Aug. 15.

Reuter's Agent wires from Bangkok that the (Siamese) troops have occupied Muang-pray. It is reported that the Shans have been defeated with a loss of two hundred and are dispersing. Europeans have been unmolested by command of the King.

Bombay, Aug. 16.

The *Times of India* Bushire correspondent writes on August 7th:—There have been a few shocks of earthquake, but scarcely perceptible. The people are returning to their usual vocations. Still, nobody dares to sleep indoors, as all the houses are in a very unsafe condition, and unless rebuilt they will come down with the first rains. At Keshm things are the same as last reported. The place is still deserted, and the people are not expected to return to their homes for another month.

Madras, Aug. 16.

The Madras Government has now under consideration the desirability of levying a pilgrim tax in those municipalities of the Presidency which are centres of religious pilgrimage: the proceeds of the tax to be devoted entirely to sanitary requirements owing to the large influx of pilgrims during a festival. A similar tax is levied in eleven municipalities in the Bombay Presidency without any hardship. The proposal was made by the Gonjeveram Municipality, and Government is consulting other municipalities, before undertaking legislation in the matter.

London, Aug. 16.

The King has presented a golden crucifix to Westminster Abbey as a special coronation gift.

The *Indian Daily News* has the following cable, dated London Aug. 17:—

The letter addressed by the Indian representatives has made a great impression on the country. The London daily press warmly praise the spirit that animated the writer. The *Times* anticipates that the loyalty of India has been strengthened by this memorable visit.

A cable to the *Indian Daily News* says:—

Sir F. Treves is still in attendance on the King.

London, Aug. 15.

Contrary to expectation the Boer Generals did not witness the naval review, but proceeded to London after their arrival at Southampton. The Generals boarded the *Nigeria*, where they were greeted cordially and conversed briefly with Mr. Chamberlain, Lord Kitchener and Lord Roberts.

Botha's secretary said they had not witnessed the review because they were too tired. They would be pleased to see the King if His Majesty desired.

The London correspondent of the *Indian Daily Telegraph* states confidently that the refusal of the next Viceroyalty of India lies between Lord Cromar and Lord Milner.

London, Aug. 15.

Lord Roberts and Kitchener met the Boer Generals at Southampton, and accompanied them aboard the *Wildfire* to the Royal yacht. Lord Kitchener presented them to the King. The King's reception was most cordial. Conversation was informal. Politics were untouched, but His Majesty referred to the Boers' persevering gallantry, and their consideration, and kindness shown to British prisoners and wounded. The interview lasted a quarter of an hour.

London, Aug. 18.

The Ceylon contingent have sailed on the *Ophir*.

When passing the Japanese warships on Saturday, the Royal yacht went dead show as a special honour to our allies.

London, Aug. 18.

The Shah was received in London by the Prince of Wales, and drove in state to Marlborough House, escorted by the Life Guards, by a circuitous route lined with troops. He was cheered by crowds.

London, Aug. 19.

Bushire advises to the *Times of India* state that Lord Cranborne's denial of purchase of land of Bahrain by the Russian Consul has caused surprise locally. The Russian Consul recently raised a huge flag staff over the Consulate at Bushire topping all others, with the idea of impressing the ignorant. He loses no opportunity of exhibiting some puerile show of superiority over his English colleague, but this has no effect.

Gulmarg, Aug. 18.

Lady Curzon and party left Gulmarg for Srinagar, and arrived at the Residency on Friday evening, having come the last three miles by River. Early in the morning Her Excellency visited the Nishat Bagh, afterwards returning across the Dal Lake. After breakfast Her Excellency inspected samples of Kashmir work at the museum, leaving in the evening for Baramulla, and started from there early on Sunday Morning.

Allahabad, Aug. 19.

There is every reason to hope that the remaining relief programmes will be made public within the next fortnight or at most three weeks. Presumably native cavalry reliefs may be looked for first.

Bombay, Aug. 18.

The absence of rain is causing great anxiety at Ahmedabad. In the bazaar the people have given up all hopes. Beggars are increasing in the city. On the 16th a number of breed-

ing cattle, goats, cows and camels were brought from Aujar in Kutch by villagers owing to the scarcity of rain there. They came on foot from Viramgaum, and proceeded further on to Modassa in the Prantel district, as they had heard of good rain there. The animals numbered over 1,000 and presented a spectacle of great distress.

London, Aug. 19.

The Japanese and other warships have sailed homeward.

The King has sent to his hospital fund £10,000 the gift of the Maharaja of Gwalior.

London, Aug. 19.

The Boer Generals have issued a statement greatly appreciating their reception in London. The invitation to the review was declined solely because they had no time to obtain suitable clothes. They were extremely pleased with the opportunity to pay their respects to the King on Sunday when they had made the necessary purchases.

The Shah has received Mr. Balfour and members of the Cabinet, Ambassadors and other distinguished personages at Marlborough House to-day. There is a constant stream of callers.

London, Aug. 19.

Another officer has been imprisoned in a fortress for refusing to participate in the expulsion of nuns at Douarnenez.

Twenty-seven casualties occurred during the military enforcement of school closings at Finistere.

NEWS AND NOTES.

It will interest most of the native capitalists in the Punjab to whom the ordinary land market is closed since the passing of the Punjab Alienation of Lands Act to hear that orders have been issued for the sale by auction of 5,000 acres of State land commanded by the Jhelum Canal. The sale will take place at Bhera on the 9th October next. Land on the Jhelum canal is mostly very good, and Jhelum river water is held in great estimation on account of the richness of its silt.

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are supplied to order as follows:—

Jinrickshas suitable for zanana work: Rs. 75/- to 100/-

Games. Carrom and Crokonole boards combined new style suitable for 5 games Rs. 9.

Croquet Sets in box complete Rs. 6/- to 10/- per set.

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